



State of South Carolina

Department of Health and Environmental
Control, STD/HIV Branch

Formula Grantee

Grantee and Community Profile

The Statewide HOPWA program is administered by the SC Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC), STD/HIV Division. DHEC distributes the funds to regional Ryan White Care Consortia and/or eligible non-profit organizations that assist persons with HIV/AIDS.

Key Facts

Service Area:

State of South Carolina

Grant: Formula

Allocations:

FY 1993 \$ 519,000
FY 1994 \$ 924,000
FY 1995 \$ 1,147,000
FY 1996 \$1,224,000
FY 1997 \$1,453,000
FY 1998 \$1,504,000
FY 1999 \$1,657,000
FY 2000 \$1,402,000
FY 2001 \$1,614,000
FY 2002 \$1,041,000

South Carolina has experienced a 131% increase of all persons living with HIV/AIDS from 1998 to 2002, with an increase in the number of women during this time, increasing the demand for housing services.

Contact Information:

JoAnn Lafontaine
South Carolina Dept. of Health &
Environmental Control,
STD/HIV Division
Mills/Jarrett Complex, Box 101106
Columbia, SC 29211
Phone: 803-898-0752

South Carolina has experienced a 131% increase of all persons living with HIV/AIDS from 1998 to 2002. The increase in the number of women during this time means we have experienced increased demands for health care and housing services. As of December 31, 2002, there were an estimated 12,553 persons living with HIV/AIDS in the state. Forty three percent of persons living with HIV are estimated to be unemployed, although women are more likely than men to be unemployed (45% vs. 41%). Nearly half of women living with HIV/AIDS (42%) earn less than \$10,000 annually.

Program Accomplishments

In mid-2002, a needs assessment was conducted with HIV clients to identify high priority care and housing needs. These needs were reviewed with further discussion at a statewide meeting of service providers in June 2002 to develop a South Carolina Comprehensive HIV/AIDS Care Plan. The Comprehensive Plan identified the following housing issues:

- Barriers – the high cost of quality, safe, decent housing and stigma.
- Gaps – lack of quality, safe, affordable housing (rural and urban); lack of extended care housing options accepting HIV patients; lack of in-patient hospice.
- Needs – continuum of housing options including transitional, supportive, in-patient hospice and long term; emergency housing, temporary shelter.

Most HOPWA funds have been used to provide short-term housing payments and supportive services to prevent homelessness. About one third of the clients receiving housing assistance are families. Case



HOPWA Programs in South Carolina

management is an important component of South Carolina's HOPWA continuum of care. Some funds are used to support operations of a transitional housing residence. The program currently funds three demonstration projects addressing long term housing needs. The trends in the epidemic indicate that over the next 5-10 years there is an urgent need for more affordable housing on a long-term basis, particularly housing in areas that provide a safe, healthy environment for families or women with children.

The project sponsors of the state South Carolina HOPWA program are:

- AID Upstate
- Catawba Care Coalition
- Cooperative Ministry
- Fort Mill Housing Services, Inc.
- Hope for the Pee Dee
- Lowcountry AIDS Services
- Low Country Care Consortium
- Lower Savannah Care Consortium
- Palmetto Housing Corporation
- Piedmont Care Consortium
- Sumter County Health Department
- Tri-County Interagency Coalition
- Upper Savannah Care Consortium
- Upstate Homeless Coalition
- Waccamaw Care Consortium.